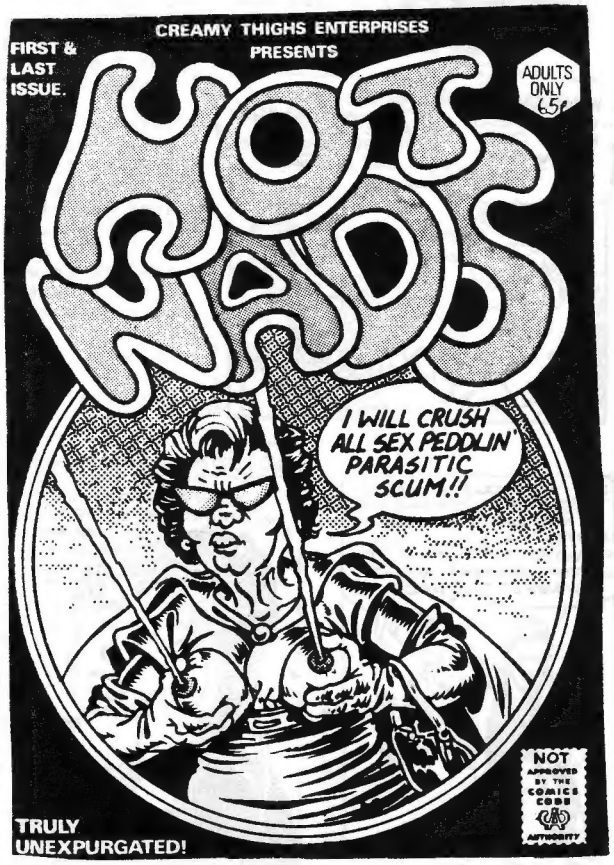
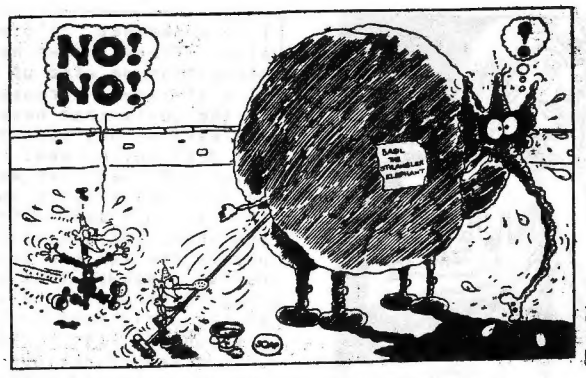
I do know that it's very hard to go on to something else. Everytime we have an underground panel at a convention we wind up arguing about pornography again. It's tiresome, because there are so many other things in the comix that never are touched on. If anything, the earlier ugs made fun of everyone making such a big deal out of sex. When the sex comix were the ones which sold best, it was only natural for the publishers to push the artists in that direction. Get more sex in. I can't sell this. Not enough sex and violence. You know, sex and violence, the odd couple. For many people the two are antithetical. There are folks who derive pleasure from pain, the S/M folks, but they have their own scene and I'm sure they do not think of the punishment administered as violence. Last year a group of leather folks came to the Lifestyles '80 con in San Francisco; they talked about their lives and demonstrated their toys (whips, handcuffs, hair-shirts, that sort of thing); It was the funniest panel of the otherwise serious con. Donahue had an X-rated show in early May that was even funnier. All those embarassed midwestern housewives trying to deal with stuff like rubber dollies and edible underwear and mirror-ceilinged motels with hourly rates (why, nobody would even notice in L.A.). I laughed my ass off. Where was I? Well, you want logic, read the TIMES; this is COMIX WORLD. We're here to have a good time and if it gets too meaningful I'll have to fire myself. There's a group of women around these days who are really down on porn. They call themselves WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE AND PORNOGRAPHY IN MEDIA. They march through North Beach and 42nd Street and put up stickers that read "This offends women" and "porn lies" and "pornography is violence against women." They dislike it, gang, about as much as Cat Yronwode dislikes the underground comix. In Berkeley, some midnighters have been spraying slogans on the local porn theater and breaking the windows of the shadow boxes when they contain posters the raiders find offensive. Well! What do you do when something offends you? I think, truthfully, if you wait around for something that doesn't offend someone, you'll have to be living in the country in a media-free society. How is all this related to HOT NADS? Well, that's Ms. Clean on the cover and she's a parody of the new Mrs. Grundy (symbol of Victorian era censorship) who says you can't laugh at funny sex jokes because they are offensive to her--Careful now, that may be her over there in the darkness with her binoculars trained on you. Keep it clean and legal. C.G.

COMIX WORLD 172. May 15, 1981. ©Clay Geerdes, Box 7081, Berkeley, CA 94707. Subs: $11 for 48 in U. S. $14 for 24 in Europe. $15 for 48 in Canada. Query for ad rates.* Antonio's HOT NADS ([redacted] from Last Gasp Comix, 2180 Bryant Street, San Francisco, CA 94110) is going to raise the question of pornography again. It's a funny little British imitation of SNATCH. The story about the family is going to remind everyone of the most often busted story in underground comix--Crumb's "Joe Blow" from ZAP 4. It's basically the same story. Over the past decade, pornography has had way more than its share of attention. And the straight world--that world of Adult Bookstores--has put underground comix in the same category with hard-core photo books and super-8 movies and X-rated video-tapes, so if you accept the straight world's right to define, you're going to agree that books like ZAP, HAROLD HEDD, and YOUNG LUST are indeed porn, but (short fanfare here) if you refuse to allow the overground to define your world, you may simply see the aforementioned titles as humorous adult funny books, at times intellectually stimulating, at times simply diversion. Folks in the underground do not tend to see the human body in its natural form as a pornographic object, but there are folks who see everything from Little Lulu to Phil Donahue's talk show as a dangerous threat to the moral fibre of the country. Porn, as you know, is the perfect patsy, the ultimate political football. Everytime a politician wants to get elected, he promises a new war on porn. Wouldn't do to get involved with any real issues like nepotism in government, corporate crime, radiation poisoning of the population, illegally carried out wars, etc. Porn is nice and safe. Few "respectable" people are going to come out in support of it (just collect it privately as did FBI boss J. Edgar Hoover all his life). It's image is a curious one. Since the days of Pompeii and Sodom and Gomorrah, it has been spoken of in negative terms while cultivated by the super-rich. It's not within the budget of the moral poor so it's fine for them to go to church and put it down. That it has such an enormous audience in America indicates that there is a psychological need for it. How something so omniprescent can maintain a clandestine image is always a wonder to me. In the major cities, porn is kept in its place, a particular neighborhood or area, but who goes there? Well, the businessmen and conventioneers. And what do they do with the porn bought? It goes into all those suburban bedrooms. Underground comix are not a part of this scene, not really. Only a few ugs have taken sex all that seriously, the others have lampooned it ad infinitum. Ah, but isn't parody porn still porn? Just because a character is laughing while he's ... I dunno.



©Gilbert Shelton, 1981



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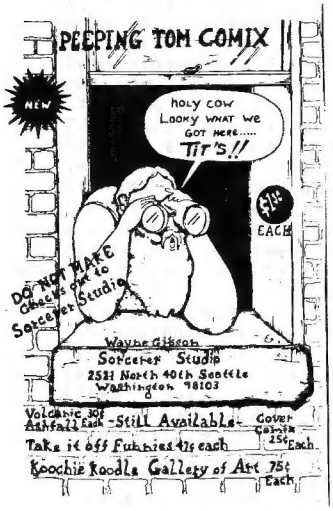
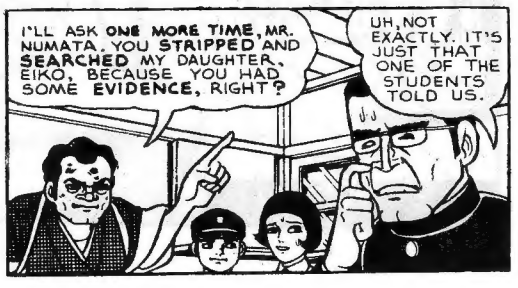
IF I'M GOING BACK TO THE 19TH CENTURY MAYBE I OUGHT TO PLAN A LITTLE. MY RE-ENTRY INTO THIS CENTURY SURE COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER!
HOW WAS I TO KNOW THAT DECENT FOLKS HATED DIRTY LONG-HAIRED HIPPIES... OR THAT I LOOKED LIKE ONE?
©Fabian Stagger, 1981

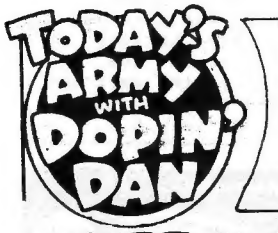

PEEPING TOM COMIX
NEW
HOLY COW LOOKY WHAT WE GOT HERE..... TIT'S!!
$1.00 EACH
DO NOT MAKE checks out to Sorceror Studio
Wayne Gibson
Sorceror Studio
2511 North 40th Seattle Washington 98103
Volcanic Ash Fall Each 30¢
-Still Available-
Cover Color 25¢ Each
Take it off Funnies 75¢ each
Koochie Koodle Gallery of Art 75¢ Each

A HANDFUL OF RICH MEN STARTED THIS WAR FOR THEIR OWN PROFIT, WITHOUT EVEN CONSULTING US CITIZENS! WHAT DO YOU MEAN "FOR MY COUNTRY"? WAKE UP, KOJI!

In RIP OFF COMIX 8, Phineas gets pregnant and Jesus goes back to the old West where he is not well received. A large selection of contemporary British strips is included in this issue, along with another adventure of the world's longest living parody, Wonder Warthog, the Hog of Steel.

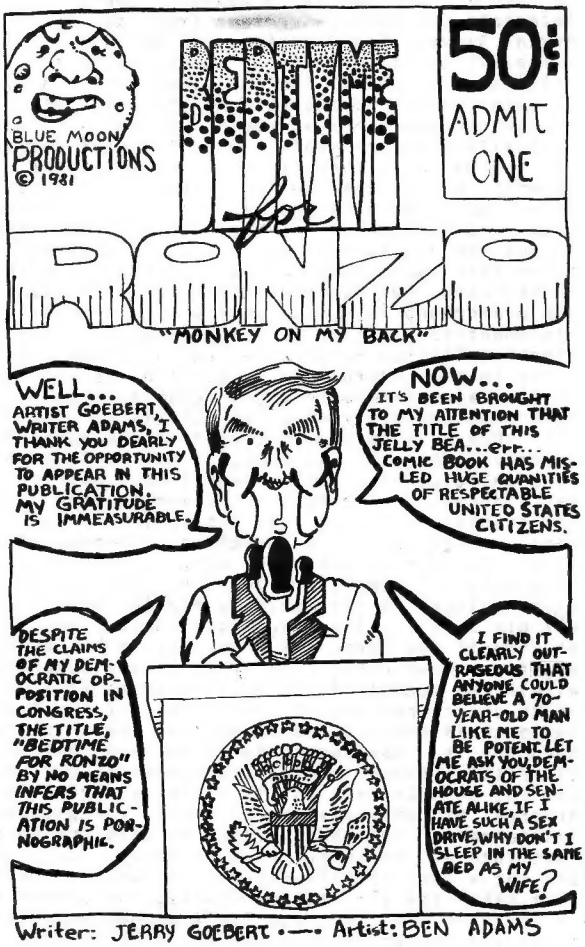
In GEN OF HIROSHIMA 2 from Educomics A Japanese family finds it is not easy to be pacifist under the Emperor.


I'LL ASK ONE MORE TIME, MR. NUMATA. YOU STRIPPED AND SEARCHED MY DAUGHTER, EIKO, BECAUSE YOU HAD SOME EVIDENCE, RIGHT?
UH, NOT EXACTLY. IT'S JUST THAT ONE OF THE STUDENTS TOLD US.
©Keiji Nakazawa, 1981.



DOPIN' DAN is back in the Army in #4, and THE SPIRIT has to deal with Sphinx and Satin in a wartime tale in SPIRIT 28 (Krupp). Mary Wings deals with everyone's alcohol and drug hang-ups in her new one, ARE YOUR HIGHS GETTING YOU DOWN? ($1.50 from Last Gasp). Pete Silvia has PAN MOD 7 out for 95¢/35¢ stamp. POB 962, Newark, N. J. 07101. This one is 16pp, digest-sized.* Gibson's PEEPING TOM brought back a lot of childhood memories. Funny interview with a peeper in there. If you are now or were ever--check it out.* You guys get that art in for COMIX WAVE 2. You readers, buy one and help out. $1.50. Don't you love us? C.G.

WHAT HAPPENED? - IS THE WORLD WIPED OUT! DID ANYBODY WIN THE WAR?
AH, IT ENDED UP A TIE - WE ONLY BLEW AWAY HALF THE EARTH BEFORE THEY CUT A DEAL...
©Ted Richards, 1981.


BLUE MOON PRODUCTIONS © 1981
BEDTIME for RONZO
50¢ ADMIT ONE
"MONKEY ON MY BACK"
WELL... ARTIST GOEBERT, WRITER ADAMS, I THANK YOU DEARLY FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR IN THIS PUBLICATION. MY GRATITUDE IS IMMEASURABLE.
NOW... IT'S BEEN BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION THAT THE TITLE OF THIS JELLY BEA...err... COMIC BOOK HAS MISLED HUGE QUANTITIES OF RESPECTABLE UNITED STATES CITIZENS.
DESPITE THE CLAIMS OF MY DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION IN CONGRESS, THE TITLE, "BEDTIME FOR RONZO" BY NO MEANS INFERS THAT THIS PUBLICATION IS PORNOGRAPHIC.
I FIND IT CLEARLY OUTRAGEOUS THAT ANYONE COULD BELIEVE A 70-YEAR-OLD MAN LIKE ME TO BE POTENT. LET ME ASK YOU, DEMOCRATS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE ALIKE, IF I HAVE SUCH A SEX DRIVE, WHY DON'T I SLEEP IN THE SAME BED AS MY WIFE?
Writer: JERRY GOEBERT ·—· Artist: BEN ADAMS

©Bill Sienkiewicz, 1981

AND I DID MAKE THOSE PHONE CALLS...
JOAN! I'VE CLEANED ALL THE CUPBOARDS...WASHED THE DOG AND WAXED THE CAT.
AND NOW I WANT A JOINT!
OF COURSE YOU DO! YOU'VE ONLY BEEN OFF POT FOR THREE DAYS!
HEY! WHY DON'T YOU REWARD YOURSELF WITH A YOGURT SHAKE? I'LL MEET YOU AT THE YOGURT SHOPPE IN TWENTY MINUTES!
©Mary Wings, 1981.